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#### (54) Title: MULTILAYER POLYMERIC STRUCTURE FOR ENHANCED GAS AND UV BARRIER

(57) Abstract: The coated multilayer structure comprising a polymeric base layer, a zero valent material barrier layer, and a top coat on the zero valent material barrier layer, the top coat comprising a soluble compound capable of reducing the permeability of the multilayer structure to gas or vapor. The zero valent material barrier layer can also enhance barrier to UV light. A method for enhancing the gas or vapor barrier properties or the UV light barrier properties of a multilayer polymeric/inorganic structure is also disclosed. According to one embodiment, Si coated polyethylene terephthalate containers are coated with a gas or vapor barrier enhancing top coat. A method for recycling containers coated with a zero valent material barrier layer is also disclosed.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C08J7/04 B32E B32B27/36 B32B15/08 B65D65/40 B65D85/72 B65D75/26 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C08J B32B B65D Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to daim No. χ EP 0 507 351 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD) 1-4, 7 October 1992 (1992-10-07) 6-13,16, 17,20, 22,27, 29,31, 33 - 36, 43-46, 48,49, 54,55, 62,64,65 claims 1,4 page 2, line 14 - line 16 Υ page 4, line 52 - line 58 8-11,14, 15.68 page 5, line 39 - line 50 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 1 March 2002 15/03/2002 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Hillebrand, G Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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